

**Amendment to the Claims:****What is claimed is:**

1. (Currently Amended) In a supported shear of the type in which axially adjacent and integral lengths of linear stock such as tubing are laterally displaced relative to one another along a shear plane at right angles to the longitudinal axis of said stock:

non-driven ram means for receiving and holding said stock;

driven ram means adjacent the non-driven ram means for receiving said stock; and

means including first and second hydraulic cylinders for alternately driving said moveable ram in opposite directions through an orbital path relative to the non-driven ram.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said means for driving further comprises:

a pinion connected to said driven ram;

a first rack engaged with the pinion and mounted for linear translation to rotate said pinion in a first direction; and

a second rack engaged with the pinion and mounted for linear translation to rotate said pinion in a second direction.

4. (Currently Amended) Hydraulic power means for selectively applying hydraulic fluid to said first and second hydraulic cylinders for causing linear translation of said first and second racks in opposite directions.

~~Apparatus as defined in claim 3 further comprising:~~

~~power means for causing linear translation of said first and second racks in opposite directions.~~

5. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 4 further including means for varying the power level of said hydraulic power means during translation of said rack.

6. (Original) Apparatus as defined in claim 3 wherein the total linear displacement of said first rack is at least approximately equal to one revolution of said drive shaft.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) A supported shear for the bladeless shearing of tube stock comprising:  
a first, fixed die for holding the stock;  
a second, movable die for holding the stock immediately axially adjacent the first fixed die to define a shear plane between the two dies; and  
means for alternately driving the second, movable die in opposite directions through an orbital path.

11. (New) A shear as defined in claim 10, wherein the means for driving comprises first and second hydraulic cylinders operatively connected to drive the second, movable die.